UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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S/1994/206
22 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic and a note verbale by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia regarding the shooting of 23 Azerbaijani prisoners and hostages in the prisoners' camp located near the city of Spitak, Republic of Armenia, on 15 February 1994 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar T. ALIYEV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

[Original: Russian]

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC

On 15 February 1994, at the prisoner-of-war camp near the town of Spitak (Republic of Armenia), which houses about 300 prisoners and hostages, 23 Azerbaijani prisoners were shot.

On 16 February 1994 the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia officially acknowledged the shooting of only eight Azerbaijani prisoners, noting that "they were killed while attempting to escape". The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia also stated that "in accordance with the Geneva Conventions, the military police of the Ministry of Defence are conducting an investigation, and the representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Erevan has been notified of the incident".

The international community long ago condemned the criminal practice of establishing concentration camps, and this is reflected in the 1949 Geneva Conventions for the protection of war victims, which forbid inhuman treatment of prisoners of war. Quite obviously, the crime that is being committed is not only a flagrant violation of those Conventions, but also a shameless challenge to the universally accepted norms of international law and human morality.

The shooting of the Azerbaijani prisoners took place after Azerbaijan had expressed its readiness to conduct a full exchange of all hostages and prisoners without any preconditions. In this connection it should be recalled that, starting in August 1993, the Azerbaijani authorities have unilaterally released more than 100 Armenian prisoners of war, and in connection with Azerbaijan's accession to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the Azerbaijani Republic declared that it condemns the taking of hostages in the course of military action, on whatever side it occurs. The Azerbaijani authorities have more than once unsuccessfully called on the competent agencies in Armenia to take similar action with regard to the Azerbaijanis taken prisoner or hostage.

This massacre of defenceless war victims once again proves the manifest truth - the undisputed participation of the Republic of Armenia in a war against Azerbaijan, otherwise why are there in Armenia's territory, and particularly in the neighbourhood of the towns of Gyumri, Spitak, Echmiadzin and Gugark, concentration camps containing more than 3,500 people, the vast majority of whom are civilians - children, women and elderly people.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic expresses its indignation at the inhuman action of the Armenian authorities, emphasizes its barbaric nature and appeals to the world community, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international humanitarian organizations to investigate all the circumstances of this crime.

Baku, 18 February 1994

NOTE VERBALE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ARMENIAN REPUBLIC

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic deems it necessary to inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Armenian Republic of the following:

On 15 February 1994, at the prisoner-of-war camp near the town of Spitak (Republic of Armenia), which houses about 300 prisoners and hostages, 23 Azerbaijani prisoners were shot.

On 16 February 1994 the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia officially acknowledged the shooting of only eight Azerbaijani prisoners, noting that "they were killed while attempting to escape". The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia also stated that "in accordance with the Geneva Conventions, the military police of the Ministry of Defence are conducting an investigation, and the representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Erevan has been notified of the incident".

In this connection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic states that regardless of the result of the investigation, the crime which has been committed is a flagrant violation of the 1994 Geneva Conventions for the protection of war victims, which prohibit inhuman treatment of prisoners of war. This crime is a shameless challenge to the universally accepted norms of international law and human morality.

The international community long ago condemned the criminal practice of establishing concentration camps, and this is reflected in the above-mentioned Geneva Conventions to which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia refers.

This massacre of defenceless war victims yet again proves the manifest truth - the undisputed participation of the Republic of Armenia in a war against Azerbaijan, otherwise there would not be in Armenia's territory, and specifically in the neighbourhood of the towns of Gyumri, Spitak, Echmiadzin and Gugark, concentration camps containing more than 3,500 people, most of them civilians - women, children and elderly people.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic emphasizes that the shooting of the Azerbaijani prisoners took place after Azerbaijan had more than once expressed its readiness to conduct a full exchange of all hostages and prisoners of war without any preconditions. Starting in August 1993, the Azerbaijani authorities have unilaterally released more than 100 Armenian prisoners of war. In connection with the signing by Azerbaijan of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, the Azerbaijani Republic stated that it condemns the taking of hostages in the course of military action, in any form and on whatever side it occurs. The Azerbaijani authorities have more than once unsuccessfully called on the competent agencies in Armenia to take similar action with regard to the Azerbaijanis taken prisoner or hostage.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic expresses to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Armenian Republic a strong protest against the inhuman and barbaric action of the Armenian authorities in shooting Azerbaijani prisoners, and calls for an immediate and careful investigation of the circumstances of the crime that has been committed and for the severe punishment of those responsible.

Baku, 18 February 1994

UNITED
NATIONS

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S/1994/207
23 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 15 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and, pursuant to paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 883 (1993), has the honour to inform him that the sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya have been implemented by decision of the Romanian Government No. 793 of 30 December 1993. The decision and the text of Security Council resolution 883 (1993) have been published in the official publication of the Romanian Parliament, Monitorul Oficial, No. 29.

The adoption of this decision was preceded by a preliminary preparatory process in which the contents of resolution 883 (1993) were notified to all relevant national authorities and administrative instructions to pertinent officials were issued.

94-09079 (E) 230294

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UNITED NATIONS **S**

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S/1994/208
23 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In accordance with the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 883 (1993), the Government of the Republic of Croatia has, at its session of 3 February 1994, passed the Governmental Decree on the Implementation of Resolutions by the United Nations Security Council on Sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The Decree has been published in the Narodne Novine (Official Gazette) No. 8/1994 of 4 February 1994.

The original text and its English translation are herewith attached for reference.*

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative

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* The text of the Decree may be consulted in room S-3545.

94-09085 (E) 230294

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A/49/81
S/1994/209
24 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 72 of the preliminary list*
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 23 February 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the statement issued on 22 February 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania concerning the Serbian propaganda on the border incidents in the northern Albanian borders (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 72 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued on 22 February 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Albania

The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has recently published a memorandum on border incidents on the border with Albania, in which, in pursuit of certain aims, most absurd accusations are formulated against the Republic of Albania. It alleges that Albania is increasing incidents on the Albanian-Yugoslav border by urging its own citizens to cross the border illegally in order to raise tension in inter-State relations and to achieve the idea of Greater Albania. The Yugoslav side, after formulating a series of insinuations against Albanian foreign policy, runs down the correct relations of Albania with other countries, offering dialogue as the way to the settlement of all issues, allegedly "in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and peace and stability in the Balkans and Europe".

The absurd character of the contents of the memorandum prompts one not to take it seriously, but since history indicates that a vacuum can be filled with slander and concoctions, we deem it reasonable once more to express openly the Albanian stand towards the accusations contained in the memorandum.

The truth about the so-called "incidents and provocations on the border by the Albanian side" is well known inside and outside Albania. From the denunciations by Albania and the conclusions of the permanent monitors of the European Community in the interior and along the Albanian side of the border, made known to the public and the competent international organizations, it results that the main cause of the border incidents has been the unjustified opening of fire by Yugoslav border guards against Albanian citizens, who have never threatened or endangered the lives of the Yugoslav frontier guards. The victims (21 dead or wounded since early January 1993) have all been Albanians and not a single Serb, despite the Serbian concoction about a phantom victim of the Yugoslav side.

The Republic of Albania has repeatedly declared that it is against violent border changes, and its authorities have always made efforts to preserve, respect and maintain the border line. This is borne out by the negotiations that have been held between the two sides in the framework of the Central Commission on Border Incidents and Signs, as well as by the meetings that the Albanian side is prepared to hold with the other side soon, even ahead of the agreed schedule.

The accusations levelled at the Albanian side of having demolished, damaged or removed border signs deep in Yugoslav territory, which gives one the impression that the Yugoslav territory is not guarded by Yugoslav forces because not only Albanian civilians, but Albanian official authorities have allegedly infiltrated it, are absurd and indicate uninformed opinion. Albania rejects them as non-existent and ill-wishing.

The above-mentioned memorandum states that the Albanians in Kosova enjoy all rights. Such an assessment runs openly counter to the conclusions and decisions adopted by the Security Council, the European Parliament, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and, particularly, by the General Assembly, which, at its recent session, by adopting a special resolution, attached special attention to the grave situation in Kosova. Likewise, in a series of documents, other organizations point out the real situation of the Albanian population in Kosova. The recent report of the State Department of the United States of America on human rights is irrefutable evidence of the situation in which the Albanians find themselves, a situation which is growing more serious after the act undertaken by Belgrade to expel CSCE monitors from Kosova. This was also stressed at the recent meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the CSCE member countries at Rome and is being witnessed every day in the acts of violence and frame-ups against Albanians.

It is not Albania that has created the tense situation in Kosova, instead, it is Serbia's policy, its tanks and the presence of more than 50,000 Serbian policemen and soldiers there and their violence and terror that have been conducive to a tragic colonial situation, where even children are denied the right to study in their mother tongue, and the wholesale sacking of Albanians, hence the silent ethnic cleansing of the Albanian population. Over the last two years, more than 200,000 Albanians have left Kosova because of Serbian persecution.

In this context, it is more than natural for Albania to take an interest in and concern itself in the future with the rights of the Albanians in Kosova and Montenegro, who, contrary to what Belgrade considers them to be, are not a minority, but an entire people who live in their own native land. Belgrade's "sincere" good will about good relations with Albania is clearly seen through when one sees that in the memorandum it puts on a par approximately 2 million Albanians in Kosova and Montenegro with several dozens of Serbs and Montenegrins who live in Albania. The interest Albania takes in the Albanians, wherever they are, has a legitimate basis, sanctioned in basic international documents.

The slander and accusations against the Republic of Albania concerning its open foreign policy are clear evidence of an anti-Albanian stand and fear of its extending relations with friendly countries and international organizations. Albania's rapprochement with united Europe, NATO, etc., is not directed against other States. It is an expression of the democratization of its internal and external policies. Accusations against such a policy are characteristic of totalitarian regimes, which rely on social and national oppression in their internal policy and on aggression and expansion in their foreign policy, contravening the global spirit of democratization in Europe.

With its policy in the Balkans and its relations with different nearby and distant States, as well as with international organizations, democratic Albania has always tried to serve the safeguarding of its independence and State sovereignty, as well as peace and security in the entire region. Democratic Albania has never been cause for concern for the Balkan region or Europe. It has never inspired aggression, nor has it been a source of conflict and war. The world knows too well those who seek to set fire to the Balkans and really threaten peace in Europe and beyond.

Anyone who is a realist does not find it difficult to understand that the barriers to dialogue are not raised by democratic Albania, which has put dialogue at the very foundation of its entire policy, but by the intolerance characteristic of Belgrade's foreign and internal policies. Violence, terror, political blackmail, new troop concentrations and the setting up of naval military bases on the border with Albania are not the way to dialogue.

Open borders and the free flow of people are not hindered by Albania. Recently, the Yugoslav side has come forward with proposals for new border crossings with the aim of increasing the flow of people. These proposals are being studied and will require time for endorsement, even by the relevant international bodies, because of the sanctions. Without waiting for a reply and prejudging it, in its memorandum, the Yugoslav side declares that Albania has "rejected" these proposals. It should be noted that the predisposition of the Yugoslav side for increased flow of people does not comply with the reality, which tells a different story. The two existing border crossings at present are not exploited at full capacity because of restrictions created by the Yugoslav side, such as restrictions on exit visas for its own citizens. It is fully understandable that this restriction is a heavy burden, especially on about 2 million Albanians living in Kosova and Montenegro, who naturally want to communicate with their relatives in Albania. According to observations of the CSCE monitors in Kosova, those Albanians, including people in political, scientific, cultural and other fields, who have been found guilty by the Yugoslav side of entering Albania without an exit visa, have been punished severely, deprived of their passports or even jailed.

The Republic of Albania rejects as unfounded and demagogic the memorandum that has been publicized by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), regarding it as another anti-Albanian step of a pronounced provocative and slanderous character aimed at improving Serbia's image in the world in order to portray it as a victim of the so-called destabilizing policy of other States or military alliances and organizations. The memorandum has the features of the Serbian chauvinistic propaganda campaign that preceded the aggression at its northern borders.

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S/1994/210
24 February 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the violations of the cease-fire provisions and the terms governing the area of separation committed by the Iranian side during the period from 7 December 1993 to 28 January 1994.

7 December 1993

At 1400 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three men in military uniform on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1530 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

8 December 1993

(a) At 1000 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three men in military uniform on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1015 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

(b) At 1400 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three men in military uniform on board entered Abadan port.

9 December 1993

(a) At 0930 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three men in military uniform on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1000 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

(b) At 1430 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three men in military uniform on board left Abadan port, heading for Muhammarah port.

11 December 1993

At 1415 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three civilians on board left Abadan port. At 1515 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

13 December 1993

At 1430 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with two civilians on board entered Abadan port from the direction of the sea.

14 December 1993

At 0930 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three soldiers on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1100 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

15 December 1993

At 0930 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with four soldiers on board entered Abadan port from the direction of the sea. At 1300 hours, it returned to Abadan port, and at 1345 hours, it left Abadan port with the same men on board, heading for the sea.

21 December 1993

At 1500 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with 10 men on board (six soldiers and four civilians) left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1600 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

22 December 1993

At 0645 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with four men on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 0720 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

25 December 1993

At 1330 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with four civilians on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1500 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

26 December 1993

At 1430 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with five soldiers on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1600 hours, it returned to its point of departure.

1 January 1994

(a) At 0800 hours, three soldiers from the Iranian side were seen observing the Iraqi units at geographical coordinates 8508 inside the area of separation (map of Khazinah, 1:100,000).

(b) At 1040 hours, a group of about 10 men from the Iranian side were seen training in the use of the RPG-7 grenade launcher at geographical coordinates 514501 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

(c) At 1540 hours, 10 men wearing only military trousers and carrying light weapons were seen at geographical coordinates 9001 in front of the Zayd guard post opposite the Iraqi units. They fired a number of rounds in the direction of the Iraqi units and, after five minutes, withdrew to the Iranian rear (map of Tahiri, 1:100,000).

2 January 1994

At 1100 hours, six men armed with rifles and a light grenade launcher were seen at the abandoned Iranian post at geographical coordinates 918959 in front of the Zayd guard post. They fired 30 rounds at the Iraqi units, and they were then joined by nine more men. At 1145 hours, they returned to the Iranian rear (map of Tahiri, 1:100,000).

6 January 1994

At 0850 hours, a group of about six men from the Iranian side were seen repairing the shelters at geographical coordinates 518529 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

7 January 1994

At 1200 hours, a group of about 20 soldiers from the Iranian side were seen erecting a mound, on which they raised the Iranian flag, opposite the Iraqi units at geographical coordinates 367730 in front of the Bujaylah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

8 January 1994

(a) At 0800 hours, a group of 25 to 30 men from the Iranian side were seen fortifying shelters at geographical coordinates 514501 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

(b) On the afternoon of the same day, eight Iranian warplanes violated Iraqi airspace in the northern sector and overflew the Kou Senjaq area. On the same day, 17 other aircraft violated Iraqi airspace, overflying the Qindil area.

11 January 1994

At 1025 hours, a group of 15 to 20 men from the Iranian side were seen repairing and digging shelters at geographical coordinates 518529 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

12 January 1994

(a) At 1100 hours, an Iranian warplane violated Iraqi airspace in the northern sector and penetrated as far as Kou Senjaq.

(b) At 1100 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with two men in military uniform on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1230 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

16 January 1994

At 0900 hours, a white-coloured Iranian military patrol boat with five men on board (two in military uniform, one carrying field-glasses and the other a small communications device) was seen approaching the Iraqi coast at geographical coordinates 1858 (map of Saybah, 1:100,000). Ten minutes later, it returned to its point of departure.

17 January 1994

(a) An Iranian force entered Iraqi territory in the Mawat area, Sulaymaniyah Governorate, penetrated 8 to 10 kilometres and seized a number of the inhabitants of the villages in the area.

(b) At 1350 hours, a group of about 7 men from the Iranian side were seen repairing and strengthening shelters at geographical coordinates 514501 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

(c) At 1400 hours an Iranian military patrol boat with four soldiers on board left Abadan port. At 1500 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

19 January 1994

At 1300 hours, an Iranian military helicopter was seen coming from the Iranian rear, flying at low altitude. It followed the course of the international boundary in the area opposite the area between the Darraji guard post and the Hasan al-Askari guard post and then returned over the same course to the Iranian rear.

20 January 1994

(a) At 0900 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with four soldiers on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1100 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

(b) At 1430 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three soldiers on board left Muhammarah port, heading for Abadan port.

23 January 1994

At 1510 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three soldiers on board was seen sailing parallel to the Iranian coast facing Umm al-Rasas island in the direction of Muhammarah port. At 1610 hours, it returned over the same course.

24 January 1994

At 1500 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat with three soldiers on board entered Abadan port from the direction of the sea.

25 January 1994

An Iranian military patrol boat made of fibreglass, with three soldiers on board, entered Abadan port from the direction of the sea.

26 January 1994

(a) At 0805 hours, a group of about 20 men from the Iranian side were seen doing mortar training at geographical coordinates 518529 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

(b) At 0900 hours, a group of about 10 men from the Iranian side were seen repairing shelters at geographical coordinates 512512 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

(c) At 0900 hours, the Iranian side erected a new tent at the side of the Shib guard post at geographical coordinates 656275, in addition to the tents that they had already erected there, and a number of soldiers were seen repairing the old tents inside the area of separation (map of Hawr al-Hawizah, 1:100,000).

(d) At 1350 hours, a small Iranian military patrol boat made of fibreglass and with two soldiers on board left Abadan port, heading for Muhammarah port. At 1430 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board and accompanied by a small boat of the same type.

27 January 1994

At 1045 hours, a group of about 15 men from the Iranian side were seen repairing shelters at geographical coordinates 512512 in front of the Fakkah guard post inside the area of separation (map of Shaykh Faris, 1:100,000).

28 January 1994

At 1330 hours, an Iranian military patrol boat made of fibreglass and with five soldiers on board left Abadan port, heading for the sea. At 1440 hours, it returned to its point of departure with the same men on board.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
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Security Council

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S/1994/211
24 February 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of violations by the Kuwaiti side of the provisions of the cease-fire and the instructions on implementation of the demilitarized zone, as follows:

1. At 0730 hours on 11 November 1993, a Kuwaiti vehicle containing a number of 16-mm rifles was discovered near boundary pillar 103 in the demilitarized zone. The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) was notified and the aforesaid weapons were removed by officers from UNIKOM.

2. At 1100 hours on 19 December 1993, two groups of individuals from the Kuwaiti regime entered the farm of citizen Jabbar Khafyan by means of two Chevrolet pick-up vehicles, together with an excavator. They demolished his house and fired shots in the direction of the workers on the above-mentioned farm.

3. At 1100 hours on 19 December 1993, the Kuwaiti side fired several shots in the direction of an Iraqi farm near boundary pillar 91 at coordinates 616330.

4. At 1445 hours on 26 December 1993, members of the Kuwaiti police detained a number of Iraqi workers while they were in the process of recovering property in the inhabited area at Umm Qasr near boundary pillar 104.

5. At 1630 hours on 17 January 1994, a Kuwaiti patrol abducted two Iraqi citizens, Salih Musa Sharir and Ramadan Khalaf, while they were assisting an Iraqi citizen to remove various items from his farm.

6. At 2400 hours on 8 February 1994, the Kuwaiti side fired several shots from an illuminating pistol from the Abdali complex in the direction of Iraqi units.

7. At 2400 hours on 9 February 1994, the Kuwaiti side fired a single shot from an illuminating pistol in the direction of the Safwan border position at coordinates 618339.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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S/1994/212
24 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In accordance with instructions from my Government, I wish to express Croatia's utmost concern about two serious developments on the territory of the Republic of Croatia that are in violation of the Security Council resolutions, and in particular resolution 871 (1993).

As it is already known, on 18 February 1994, at 0900 hours, approximately 100 Serbian paramilitary troops advanced towards the NEPBAT positions at a crossing-point at the bridge over the Sava River, on the international border between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The NEPBAT troops then relinquished their positions faced with overwhelming and hostile units, thus giving the Serbian paramilitaries effective control of the crossing-point. The Croatian Government has had reports that in the immediate vicinity of the bridge, on the Bosnian side, Serbian paramilitary units have been joined by elements of the Yugoslav paratroopers. That raises our concerns with regard to the security of the civilian population and the forces of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the Sector West, and with regard to the control of the international border of Croatia in accordance with resolution 769 (1992). Further, this hostile act puts in serious jeopardy the confidence-building measures and the restoration of traffic along the Zagreb-Zupanja highway, as envisioned in resolution 871 (1993).

My Government would like to commend the efforts of UNPROFOR in its attempts to regain control of the bridge by means of negotiation. In our view, the present situation is unacceptable and should be resolved urgently. My Government is strongly of the opinion that the aggression against Croatian territory and the blatant disregard for UNPROFOR forces in Sector West would warrant stronger action and the use of force, if the negotiations prove ineffective due to Serbian obstruction.

The situation on the territory of the Republic of Croatia immediately adjacent to Sector South is equally tense and is also disturbing. Yesterday, 22 February 1994, in the early afternoon Serbian insurgents from their positions in and around Krusevo (United Nations Protected Area (UNPA) South) initiated an artillery attack on the pontoon bridge over the Maslenica Straits, causing human casualties and material damage to the bridge and the surrounding facilities.

According to the United Nations Senior Military Observer who inspected the site, beginning at 1325 hours a total of 24 shells impacted in the area of the bridge, one of which caused minor damage to the bridge itself. One military reservist manning the checkpoint at the bridge was seriously injured, as well as two civilian travellers crossing the bridge at the time of attack. It is assessed that the artillery used was 105 mm, 122 mm and 155 mm calibre.

Today, 23 February 1994, the Serbian insurgents began the shelling of the area of the Maslenica bridge from Krusevo at 0830 hours, sporadically continuing their attack until 1420 hours. In that time impacts of 17 shells were recorded, causing minor material damage and injuring a driver of a truck transporting humanitarian supplies. In addition to this, on several occasions, the Croatian Army observers have recorded a fly-over of the area by the "Galeb" and "MiG-21" military jet aircraft of the Yugoslav Air Force, from the area of Benkovac, over Krusevo and onwards in the direction of Lika, in an apparent reconnaissance mission.

Needless to say, the civilian and humanitarian traffic over the bridge has been interrupted, thus disrupting the supply of basic necessities to the Dalmatia region of Croatia and to southern and central Bosnia and Herzegovina. Human casualties and material damage have raised tension in the area that could lead to further undesired developments. The Security Council is fully aware of the importance that the Republic of Croatia attaches to free and unimpeded traffic over the Maslenica Straits and has on several occasions reiterated its commitment to the free flow of traffic.

These two evolving situations bring serious concerns to the Government of the Republic of Croatia. We urge the Security Council to send a clear message to the Serbian paramilitary units and insurgents that the actions described shall not be tolerated and should be terminated immediately. The Council should emphasize that it is ready to use all measures at its disposal in order to ensure compliance with its previous decisions concerning the territorial integrity and international borders of the Republic of Croatia, bearing in mind that recent Serbian insurgent actions are seriously jeopardizing the overall peace process in the region as a whole.

I would kindly request your assistance in distributing this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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General Assembly
Security Council

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A/48/881
S/1994/213
24 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 38
ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED,
DEMOCRATIC AND NON-RACIAL
SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 February 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a situation report by Minister Roelf Meyer, chief government negotiator, on the present status of the constitutional negotiations in South Africa (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 38, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) F. O. BERGH
Chargé d'affaires
Deputy Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Situation report issued on 22 February 1994 by the Minister of Constitutional Development and of Communication of South Africa

CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS: THE PRESENT POSITION

The constitutional negotiations were completed and the constitution passed by Parliament in December 1993. Since then further attempts have been made to ensure the participation of the Freedom Alliance parties in the transitional process and the April elections. This was done in order to seek a settlement on outstanding constitutional differences and to achieve amendments to the constitution while there was still time to do so before the elections.

This was done through trilateral talks involving the Government, the Freedom Alliance and the African National Congress (ANC) from the beginning of January to early February. No final result could be achieved during this time on account of:

1. The uncompromising stances which some of the parties adopted on various issues.

2. The fact that the Freedom Alliance parties excluded themselves from the Multi-Party Negotiating Process during the second half of last year when the constitution was actually drafted. Thus they were not aware of, and eventually lacked understanding of, the compromises reached during these negotiations, as reflected in the text of the constitution.

3. The absence of a single negotiating position on the part of the Freedom Alliance. At no stage during negotiations were they able to present a uniform position or arrive at a final decision whenever a possible breakthrough was imminent.

4. At no stage did the Freedom Alliance have sanctioning from their respective principals, and they had to refer back to their principals constantly, leading to delays, interruptions, inconclusive meetings and the frequent changing of agendas.

5. The Government had to deal with the different points of departure of individual negotiators in the Freedom Alliance. There were the solution-orientated, and those who were obviously not prepared to seek solutions.

A final attempt to reach trilateral agreements was made on 3 February 1994, when Government presented their package of proposed amendments that could have led to an agreement ensuring participation by the Freedom Alliance. The Freedom Alliance initially reacted positively to these proposals, but were not prepared to bind themselves finally to any solution on that basis.

Since the trilateral talks had failed to bring about a settlement, the Government had to take a different route. That was to go forward and amend the constitution in Parliament with the cooperation of the Negotiating Council. The ANC was approached and agreed to such a process. The Negotiating Council was subsequently convened on 21 February 1994 to consider and approve the package of proposals.

The package of proposals consisted of the following:

1. The amendment of section 126 of the Constitution which deals with the powers and functions of provinces. The reference to concurrency has been deleted in order to make it absolutely certain that the laws passed by the provincial legislatures will prevail over laws passed by the national Parliament on matters listed in Schedule 6 to the Constitution, except for overrides already provided for and previously accepted by the Freedom Alliance.

2. The amendment of sections 155-159 of the Constitution to strengthen the taxing competence of provinces. This was previously agreed to by the Freedom Alliance.

3. The amendment of section 160 of the Constitution to enable provincial legislatures to include specific provisions in their own constitutions regarding their own legislative and executive structures. This will, for example, enable the province of KwaZulu/Natal to make special arrangements for the position of the Zulu monarchy.

4. The amendment of Constitutional Principle XVIII to provide that the powers and functions of provinces, as set out, will not be diminished in the final constitution. This effectively means entrenchment of this most critical provincial provision, according to the Freedom Alliance. No constitutional principle can be changed after the election, even by a 100% majority in Parliament.

5. Changing the name of the province of Natal to KwaZulu/Natal.

6. Adding an additional constitutional principle on the subject of self-determination, including the possibility that it can be exercised in a territorial entity, if constitutionally agreed. Provision is also made by amending Chapter 11 to create a mechanism for conducting further negotiations on the subject of a Volkstaat for those who really want it.

7. Amendments to the Electoral Act to provide for two ballot papers, one for the National Assembly and one for the provincial legislatures and for the extension to 4 March 1994 of the date for parties to register for the elections.

All these amendments have now been approved by the Negotiating Council and will be put before Parliament for deliberation next week. This is a complete package that in fact addresses all the concerns that were raised by the Freedom Alliance. There is now nothing to keep them from participating in the elections. For the sake of our country's future we can only hope that reason will now prevail.

R.P. MEYER, MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OF COMMUNICATION

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/885
S/1994/214
25 February 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Agenda items 34 and 35
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 25 February 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement by His Excellency the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of my country (see annex) concerning the savage massacre perpetrated by Israeli extremist settlers against defenceless Palestinian citizens while they were praying in the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron in the occupied Palestinian territories at dawn today, 25 February 1994, as a result of which dozens were killed and hundreds wounded.

I request you to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fuad A. BATAINEH
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Statement by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan concerning the criminal occurrence in the Ibrahimi Mosque

I wish to convey the vehement condemnation of the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the savage massacre that was perpetrated at dawn today against innocent and defenceless Palestinian citizens in the Ibrahimi Mosque, one of the most sacred places of worship for the Islamic community.

This abominable crime, which was perpetrated against a congregation at prayer in the middle of the blessed month Ramadan, has devastated us and every Arab and Muslim, just as it has devastated the world. It must not be allowed to pass as a transient occurrence. What is required is for the international community to treat it as one of the phenomena of the arming of extremist settlers; Jordan has long warned of the dire consequences of this for the peace process. Accordingly, Israel must bear the responsibility for these brutal actions, since it provides the settlers with weapons, freedom of movement and access to the Islamic Holy Places. Israel must undertake an immediate investigation into this criminal occurrence and put a halt to the terrorist acts carried out by settlers. The criminals must be punished and disarmed so as to prevent a recurrence of this massacre.

The international community and international bodies are called upon to assume their responsibilities with regard to protection of the Palestinians under occupation and prevention of the occurrence of such acts.

As we offer our heartfelt condolences to our steadfast brothers in the holy city of Hebron and to the families of the martyrs, we draw the attention of the international community to the fact that this criminal occurrence that has been added to the record of Israeli practices already filled with acts of terrorism and intimidation against innocent citizens is but an embodiment of the consequences of the occupation of the Palestinian territories and of depriving the Palestinian people of its rights to its homeland. This should prompt the international community to move to take up its responsibilities for halting such occurrences through practical action and for ensuring arrival at an honourable, just and lasting settlement that will put an end to the conflict, guarantee Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and accord the Palestinian people its legitimate national rights.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/215
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I would like to draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the recent actions of Serbian insurgents in the occupied regions of Croatia aimed against the relevant Security Council resolutions and in particular resolutions 815 (1993), 847 (1993) and 871 (1993), which emphasize that United Nations Postal Administrations (UNPA) are an integral part of the Republic of Croatia.

The senior representative of the local Serbian insurgent authorities from Knin Djordje Bjegovic has had a series of meetings with the representatives of Belgrade authorities over the past three weeks, aimed at step-by-step progress towards eventual secession of the "Republic of Serbian Krajina" from the Republic of Croatia and unification with the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)". The first step in this process appears to be the official proclamation of a monetary union of Serbia and Montenegro with its satellites in the occupied territories of the Republic of Croatia and the self-proclaimed "Republika Srpska" on the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

As of 14 February 1994, according to statements by Belgrade authorities, representatives of insurgents in Knin, and the Belgrade press, the monetary unit in the UNPAs in the Republic of Croatia is the "Yugoslav new dinar", issued by the Central Bank in Belgrade and processed by the branch it immediately established at Knin. This raises serious concerns for my Government.

It clearly shows that the local insurgent Serbian authorities do not have any intention to negotiate bona fides on the normalization of relations with the Croatian Government, but are aiming at secession from the Republic of Croatia and their unification, first with the Bosnian Serb para-State and ultimately with the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)".

With regard to the Joint Declaration on the normalization of relations between the Republic of Croatia and the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" signed by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Geneva on 19 January 1994, my Government would have to reassess if the Belgrade authorities did sign this initial document in good faith.

My Government requests that the Security Council take any action it deems appropriate to ensure the compliance of the Knin authorities with its relevant resolutions and the return of the representatives of the local Serbian population from the UNPAs to bona fides negotiations.

The Republic of Croatia finds the actions concerning the "monetary union" to be aimed against the territorial integrity of Croatia, and reserves the right to take appropriate measures in this regard.

May I request your kind assistance in distributing this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/215*
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I would like to draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the recent actions of Serbian insurgents in the occupied regions of Croatia aimed against the relevant Security Council resolutions and in particular resolutions 815 (1993), 847 (1993) and 871 (1993), which emphasize that the United Nations Protected Areas (UNPAs) are an integral part of the Republic of Croatia.

The senior representative of the local Serbian insurgent authorities from Knin Djordje Bjegovic has had a series of meetings with the representatives of Belgrade authorities over the past three weeks, aimed at step-by-step progress towards eventual secession of the "Republic of Serbian Krajina" from the Republic of Croatia and unification with the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)". The first step in this process appears to be the official proclamation of a monetary union of Serbia and Montenegro with its satellites in the occupied territories of the Republic of Croatia and the self-proclaimed "Republika Srpska" on the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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It clearly shows that the local insurgent Serbian authorities do not have any intention to negotiate bona fides on the normalization of relations with the Croatian Government, but are aiming at secession from the Republic of Croatia and their unification, first with the Bosnian Serb para-State and ultimately with the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)".

With regard to the Joint Declaration on the normalization of relations between the Republic of Croatia and the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" signed

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Geneva on 19 January 1994, my Government would have to reassess if the Belgrade authorities did sign this initial document in good faith.

My Government requests that the Security Council take any action it deems appropriate to ensure the compliance of the Knin authorities with its relevant resolutions and the return of the representatives of the local Serbian population from the UNPAs to bona fides negotiations.

The Republic of Croatia finds the actions concerning the "monetary union" to be aimed against the territorial integrity of Croatia, and reserves the right to take appropriate measures in this regard.

May I request your kind assistance in distributing this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/216
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that on 23 February 1994 the Chief-of-Staff of the Croatian Defense Council (HVO), General Ante Roso, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina, General Rasim Delic, signed a peace accord at Zagreb, Croatia.

The key elements of the peace accord include:

(a) A cease-fire between the two armed forces, which will start at noon local time on 25 February 1994;

(b) Positioning of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) forces at key points in order to ensure adherence to the cease-fire;

(c) The placing of all heavy weapons above 12.7 mm under UNPROFOR control or the withdrawal of those weapons to a minimum distance from the line of confrontation of 10 km for mortars and 29 km for tanks and artillery by noon local time on 7 March 1994;

(d) The establishment of a Joint Commission in which both parties will be represented under the chairmanship of UNPROFOR.

The Joint Commission will deal, inter alia, with: the opening of routes for humanitarian aid and UNPROFOR convoys; the opening of camps and release of prisoners; the unhindered and equitable distribution of humanitarian aid by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); and the restoration of utilities.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia, encouraged by the recent positive events in Sarajevo, is of the opinion that this accord provides a firm foundation for the establishment of mutually beneficial relations between Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Muslims, as well as between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Furthermore, the Government of the Republic of Croatia is of the view that the international community and, in particular, the Security Council should

exert their influence to promote the above-mentioned peace accord and ensure that its terms are fully implemented.

On behalf of the Government of Croatia, I wish to commend UNPROFOR for agreeing to position its troops along the confrontation lines between Bosnian Muslim and Bosnian Croat forces in order to ensure adherence to the cease-fire. At the same time, I wish to reiterate the position of my Government that the Security Council should deploy UNPROFOR troops in such a way as to protect the Bosnian Croat population in central Bosnia - Vitez, Busovaca, the Kresevo-Kiseljak enclave and the Usora region.

In regard to allegations of the presence of regular Croatian Army troops on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, I wish to bring your attention to the fact that on 22 February Yasushi Akashi, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the former Yugoslavia, and Hrvoje Sarinic, Head of the office of the Republic of Croatia for cooperation with UNPROFOR, agreed to establish a joint commission of Croat and UNPROFOR officials to deal with this matter. The joint commission will examine whether the Republic of Croatia is complying with the terms of the Presidential statement of 3 February concerning the possible presence of regular Croatian troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I wish to reiterate that the letter dated 17 February 1994 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1994/190) stated that "the ability of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to observe developments throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina is limited". Hopefully, the aforesaid joint commission, with its greater resources, will be able to determine the facts in a more conclusive manner.

Additionally, I wish to state that the Republic of Croatia fully supports the decision of HVO commanders, which was made at the above-mentioned meeting, to allow for unhindered inspection by the joint commission of its troops.

I hope that this commission will present a satisfactory report to the Security Council as soon as possible and that its conclusions will serve to promote better relations and trust between the Bosnian Croats and Muslims.

In this light, I wish to reiterate the support of my Government for the complete and effective control of the borders of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to prevent the infiltration of any foreign troops into that State.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Croatia
to the United Nations

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/217
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The members of the Security Council are grateful for your report dated 10 February 1994 on the massacre of the civilian population in Stupni Do, Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/1994/154).

The members are greatly disturbed by the findings of the investigation contained in your report and thus request you to transmit the report, as well as all information at the disposal of the Secretariat that may reveal serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, to the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia.

The members of the Council welcome the fact that investigations are continuing in order to gain as much evidence as possible and would be grateful if they could be kept informed of the progress of the investigations.

(Signed) Roble OLHAYE
President of the Security Council

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General Assembly
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A/48/882
S/1994/218
25 February 1994

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Agenda items 34, 35, 85 and 86
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS
AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER
ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 25 February 1994 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which retains the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to bring the following to your attention.

Another massacre was committed by the illegal Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians in the occupied Palestinian territory at dawn on Friday, 25 February 1994. A group of Israeli settlers, including 1 in military uniform, opened fire indiscriminately at the Palestinian worshippers praying during the holy month of Ramadan in Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi in Al-Khalil, resulting in more than 50 killed and more than 200 wounded. That massacre, the most horrible massacre since the beginning of the occupation in 1967, was followed by the killing of more than 10 Palestinians in confrontations with the Israeli army in Al-Khalil and other locations throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, including Nablus, Ramallah and Gaza, and by the closure of several areas by the Israeli authorities declaring those areas off-limits.

We believe that the underlying cause of such condemnable actions remains the official Israeli policy regarding settlements in the occupied Palestinian

territory. Further, we believe that the Israeli Government should be held responsible for the Al-Khalil massacre. In this connection, we recall Security Council resolutions which consider settlements to be illegal and obstacles to peace and which call for their dismantlement.

The massacre which has been committed by the illegal settlers, as well as their other violent actions against Palestinian civilians in the last several months, indicate their determination to undermine the peace process currently under way. This dangerous situation requires immediate and firm actions to bring these settlers under control and suppress their violent behaviour, while the transitional arrangements in the Palestinian territory are taking place.

We call upon the international community to bring an end to such massacres and criminal acts committed against our people, and we reiterate our request for international protection through a direct international presence in the occupied Palestinian territory. Such a presence could only be conducive to the success of the peace process. We also call upon the Security Council immediately to fulfil its responsibilities and to take the necessary measures in reaction to the situation recounted above. We call upon the Council to do so in a meeting to be held immediately due to the volatility of the situation and its dangerous nature.

I would be grateful if you could arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 35, 85 and 86, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/219
25 February 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the annexed letter dated 23 February 1994 from Mr. Mohammed Said al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, concerning the continuation of aggressive and provocative acts by United States and British aircraft engaged in dropping leaflets, and also the dispatch by the rulers of Kuwait of remote-controlled aircraft for the purpose of dropping leaflets in Iraqi territory.

I should be grateful if you would have my letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 23 February 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to refer to my letters to you dated, respectively, 9 and 16 December 1993 and 12 January 1994, which gave detailed information on the hostile and provocative acts carried out by United States and other warplanes flying out of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to violate Iraqi airspace and drop provocative and hostile leaflets containing inflammatory propaganda against Iraq.

By the present letter, I wish to provide you with the following additional data established by the competent Iraqi authorities:

1. On Tuesday and Wednesday, 25 and 26 January 1994, the rulers of Kuwait sent a number of remote-controlled pilotless aircraft into Iraqi airspace over Basra Governorate. These aircraft, using electronic timers, dropped provocative leaflets containing inflammatory propaganda against Iraq on various parts of Basra.

2. At 1100 hours on Tuesday, 25 January 1994, one of these Kuwaiti aircraft came down in the area of Shu'aybah in Basra Governorate after dropping its load of leaflets hostile to Iraq and the Iraqi people, which had been prepared by the rulers of Kuwait for the purposes of their provocative and hostile project.

3. On the morning of 25 January 1994, a number of hostile United States and British aircraft coming from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia violated Iraqi airspace and dropped hostile leaflets on various parts of Basra Governorate.

4. The warplanes referred to in paragraph 3 above continued to violate Iraqi airspace on 26, 27 and 28 January 1994 and dropped hostile leaflets on Safwan, Shu'aybah, the centre of the city of Basra, Jabal Sanam, Qurnah and Dair.

In condemning these hostile and provocative acts, we hold the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait entirely responsible for their participation in the commission of acts of aggression against Iraq and for all the extensive material damage and threats to the security, economy, political integrity and morale of Iraq and the Iraqi people, resulting therefrom.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq
Baghdad, 13 Ramadan A.H. 1414
23 February A.D. 1994

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S/1994/220
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 35
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 25 February 1994 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to draw your most urgent attention to the tragic massacre of unarmed Palestinian worshippers in Hebron today.

The Cable News Network (CNN) has confirmed that an American-born Jewish settler from Qiryat Arba, armed with a machine gun and wearing a uniform of the Israeli Reserve, entered the Hebron Mosque during prayer and proceeded to shoot, in cold blood, at the Palestinian worshippers, killing over 50 and wounding at least 100. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the Israeli troops guarding the Mosque did not intervene to stop the attack for over 10 minutes.

In the wake of this massacre, violence has spread elsewhere in the occupied Palestinian territory and clashes were reported at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and in Gaza and other areas. The Committee is seriously concerned at reports of shootings by Israeli soldiers against Palestinian demonstrators.

The Committee condemns the massacre in the strongest terms. It wishes to remind the international community that, as long as Israeli forces occupy the Palestinian territory, Israel bears sole responsibility for the protection of Palestinians, as the occupying Power in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949.

The Committee has noted statements of Israeli leaders, in particular Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, expressing regret and sorrow to Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat and condemning the act as murder. The Committee calls on the Israeli Government to take immediate action to control and disarm the settlers and others opposed to the recent agreements and to restrain the actions of its soldiers in order to defuse tension and restore credibility to the peace process. Moreover, the Committee believes that only

rapid and consistent progress in the current negotiations leading to the disengagement of Israeli forces and self-rule for Palestinians will prevent the current situation from deteriorating even further. The Committee calls on all concerned to do everything possible to surmount the current obstacles and to advance towards full implementation of the agreements that have been reached.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kéba Birane CISSÉ
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
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A/48/884
S/1994/221
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 42
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 February 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the letter of H.E. President Soeharto of the Republic of Indonesia, Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to the President of the Security Council, conveying the views of the Movement on the latest developments concerning the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nugroho WISNUMURTI
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 24 February 1994 from the President of Indonesia, Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as the Chairman of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency, in your capacity as President of the Security Council during the month of February 1994, the views of the Movement regarding the current situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The non-aligned countries remain deeply concerned over the armed aggression, genocide and practice of "ethnic cleansing" being perpetrated against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a sovereign State Member of the United Nations, and its people. Despite condemnation from the international community and numerous resolutions adopted by the Security Council, a multi-ethnic, multicultural and multireligious society is being exterminated. In fact, the non-aligned countries consider the continued Serbian aggression to be a result of the failure of the international community to implement those very Security Council resolutions which would defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which millions of people have become uprooted, two thirds of the country has become occupied and significant loss of innocent lives has occurred. Compounding this failure is the arms embargo imposed against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which continues to deny that country its most fundamental sovereign right of self-defence. The indiscriminate bombing of a market place in Sarajevo, where nearly 70 innocent people were killed and hundreds wounded, is the latest brutality perpetrated against the Bosnian people.

While the non-aligned countries are aware that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ultimatum threatening air strikes against Serbian positions surrounding the besieged capital, Sarajevo, appears to have been met with the withdrawal of Serbian heavy weapons from the 20-kilometre exclusionary zone around Sarajevo, there remains a clear and present need to remain vigilant and ensure full compliance, resulting in a true lifting of the siege. The United Nations must ensure that the heavy weapons already withdrawn will not be deployed in other areas which would enable the Serbs to launch further attacks on the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is therefore imperative that the Security Council be convened with the aim of addressing as a matter of urgency the current situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and of taking concrete and effective measures to implement all relevant Security Council resolutions, especially resolutions 824 (1993) and 836 (1993). This would include such measures as to ensure the effective lifting of the siege of Sarajevo, as well as of other besieged towns in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and especially of "safe areas". The non-aligned countries welcome the cease-fire now in effect in Sarajevo and the surrounding area as an important step towards compliance with Security Council resolutions. They would, however, underline that hostilities continue elsewhere throughout the country, and the urgency of the Security Council enforcing a comprehensive cessation of all armed conflict so as to strengthen the political process.

Taking into account the recent developments, I believe that there is a real need to review the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), and to revise it in such a manner that it will be able to meet its requirements to prevent further aggression by Serbian forces, ensuring access of humanitarian aid.

I should clearly indicate to the Council that the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries are strongly opposed and will not support any proposal that would place Sarajevo under the administrative control of the United Nations. Such an action will deprive the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina of its right to exercise its sovereignty over its capital. The city of Sarajevo is the political capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It stands, moveover, as that nation's symbol of resistance to brutality, aggression and genocide. To have survived thus far and endured countless hardships, it is inconceivable that it should ultimately come to be placed under foreign control, albeit the United Nations.

In the light of the new momentum for peace negotiations, resulting from the withdrawal of the Serbian heavy artillery from the Sarajevo exclusionary zone, and in view of the failure of the existing Geneva peace process, it is incumbent upon the international community, and in particular the Security Council, to consider devising a new mechanism for negotiations among the parties to the conflict, including the feasibility of convening an appropriately structured international conference, with the aim of achieving a just and final solution. Such a solution must be based on the full respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Consistent with the commitment of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to contribute to the efforts to reach a just and final solution to the question of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Movement stands ready to take part in such an appropriately structured international conference or in any new negotiating process.

The States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries strongly urge the Security Council to take the necessary measures to protect the sovereignty of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and demonstrate in the process its effectiveness for maintaining international peace and security. In this connection, the non-aligned countries are prepared to assist you and other interested parties in the realization of a just and lasting peace in that strife-torn country. To that end, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries is in the process of forming a Task Force on Bosnia and Herzegovina, which will coordinate the position of its members and work in cooperation with the United Nations.

(Signed) SOEHARTO
President of the Republic of Indonesia

UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
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S/1994/222
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With reference to the letter dated 25 February 1994 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine, in my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for this month and on behalf of its members, I have the honour to request the Security Council to meet in an immediate formal session in order to consider the serious situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem.

(Signed) Nabil ELARABY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

94-09881 (E) 250294 25/02/94

UNITED
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S/1994/223
25 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement adopted in a meeting of the member States of the Organization of Islamic Conference held in New York today containing, inter alia, a request for immediate convening of the Security Council in order to discuss the grave situation resulting from the barbaric and cold blooded attack in a mosque in Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi in Al-Khalil early this morning in which over 50 innocent people were martyred and more than 100 seriously injured while offering their morning prayers.

The member States of the Organization of Islamic Conference have called for an investigation of the matter which could have serious implications for peace and security in the region as well as the ongoing peace process.

I should be grateful if you could have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Pakistan to the United Nations and
Chairman of the OIC Group in New York

Annex

Statement dated 25 February 1994 adopted by the member States of the Organization of Islamic Conference in New York

The peoples and the Governments of the member States of the Organization of Islamic Conference are deeply shocked, distressed and anguished by the barbaric and cold blooded attack in a mosque in Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi in Al-Khalil early this morning which resulted in the martyrdom of over 50 innocent people and seriously injuring more than 100 worshippers who were fasting and offering their morning prayers during the holy month of Ramadan. They strongly condemn and deeply deplore this wanton act of terrorism.

The member States of the OIC extend their heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the bereaved families.

The member States of the OIC call for the immediate convening of the Security Council in order to investigate this matter which could have serious implications for peace and security in the region as well as the ongoing peace process. They urge that those behind this cowardly attack should be brought to justice.

The member States of the OIC call for the immediate implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular, resolution 681. They recall that the occupying power has a responsibility to protect the Palestinian people in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention which is applicable to the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Shareef and the will of the international community, as manifested in relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly. They also call for an immediate end to the Israeli policies of repression against the Palestinian people.

The member States of the OIC reaffirm the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people including their inalienable right to self-determination and reiterate the need for the withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including Al-Quds Al-Shareef and from the other occupied Arab territories. They call upon the United Nations to continue to play an active role in the current peace process and express the hope that it will lead to the early establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

UNITED
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S/1994/224
4 March 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

France, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions on the conflict in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Taking note of the positive developments in and around Sarajevo, which constitute only a first step towards the restoration of peace and security throughout the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the basis of a negotiated settlement between the parties, recalling the measures taken in and around Sarajevo under resolutions 824 (1993) and 836 (1993) and welcoming the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and between the Bosnian Serb party and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the cease-fire and measures related to heavy weapons in and around Sarajevo, reached on 9 February 1994,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of achieving complete freedom of movement for the civilian population and humanitarian goods and of the restoration of normal life in Sarajevo,

Determined to restore essential public services in Sarajevo,

Welcoming, as part of the international effort to restore normal life to the city, the intention of the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, announced on 2 March 1994, to send immediately a joint civil mission to Sarajevo to assess the requirements for the restoration of essential public services, within the United Nations framework,

Reaffirming in this context the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Reiterating the importance of maintaining Sarajevo, capital of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a united city and a multicultural, multi-ethnic and pluri-religious centre,

Welcoming the goal of achieving the prompt rotation of UNPROFOR personnel in Srebrenica and the early reopening of Tuzla airport,

Mindful of the serious discussions which have taken place on the issue of Sarajevo, as part of an overall settlement, at the negotiations in the context of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia,

Deeply concerned by the deteriorating situation in Maglaj,

Deeply concerned also by the situation of the civilian population in other parts of the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including in and around Mostar and Vitez,

Welcoming in this context the recent significant developments in peace negotiations between the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Bosnian Croat party and with the Government of the Republic of Croatia, as steps towards an overall political settlement, as well as negotiations involving the Bosnian Serb party,

Bearing in mind the importance of facilitating the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes,

Stressing the importance it attaches to full compliance with international humanitarian law in all its aspects in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Recalling the provisions of its resolution 824 (1993) concerning safe areas, determining that the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security, and in this context acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Calls for all parties to cooperate with UNPROFOR in the consolidation of the cease-fire in and around Sarajevo;

2. Calls upon all parties, with the assistance of the United Nations, to achieve complete freedom of movement for the civilian population and humanitarian goods to, from and within Sarajevo, to remove any hindrance to such freedom of movement, and to help restore normal life to the city;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint, as a matter of urgency, for a limited period, a senior civilian official, who will act under the authority of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the former Yugoslavia, to draw up an overall assessment and plan of action, in conjunction with the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and also in consultation with all relevant local authorities, for the restoration of essential public services in the various opstinas of Sarajevo, other than the city of Pale; this official will be empowered to assist the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in close coordination with all relevant local authorities and the local representatives of the United Nations, to work to implement the plan;

4. Invites the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund, to be disbursed within the framework set out in paragraph 3 above, for the

restoration of essential public services in Sarajevo to promote a return to normal life in the city, and encourages States and other donors to contribute thereto;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to present within one week of the adoption of the present resolution a report on ways and means for, including the estimated cost of, the implementation of the objectives set forth above;

6. Calls upon States and other donors to assist the Secretary-General, in particular by contributing personnel and equipment, in the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions concerning Bosnia and Herzegovina;

7. Requests further the Secretary-General to report within ten days of the adoption of the present resolution on the feasibility and modalities for the application of the protection, defined in resolutions 824 (1993) and 836 (1993) to Maglaj, Mostar and Vitez, taking into account all developments both on the ground and in the negotiations between the parties;

8. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

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26 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you a text of the statement dated 15 February 1994 of the Republic of Georgia State Committee for Investigation and Revelation of Materials concerning the Policy of Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing against the Georgian Population in Abkhazia, and Submission of Such Materials to an International Tribunal.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter P. CHKHEIDZE
Permanent Representative

94-09997 (E) 280294 010394

Annex

Statement dated 15 February 1994 of the Republic of Georgia State Committee for Investigation and Revelation of Materials concerning the Policy of Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing against the Georgian Population in Abkhazia, and Submission of Such Materials to an International Tribunal

For a year and a half, the Abkhazian region of the Republic of Georgia has become an area of some of the most tragic events of the end of the twentieth century.

Fascist separatists, attempting to infringe upon the territorial integrity of Georgia, instigated an armed conflict which was sustained through substantial foreign support. Having temporarily achieved a military victory in the region, the separatists began to conduct an operation aimed at the elimination of the Georgian population in Abkhazia and violating elementary norms of international humanitarian law by their practice of genocide and ethnic cleansing. World opinion has not however reflected a proper evaluation of these facts.

The special State Committee has been established to gather the material to prove that a continuing policy of genocide and ethnic cleansing is being pursued in Abkhazia.

The fact-finding process is under way. A tremendous amount of work has been done by this special investigative body in the General Procurator's office, whose criminal investigation into the practice of genocide and ethnic cleansing towards the Georgian population in Abkhazia is now in progress. According to material gathered, it is proved that the Abkhaz separatists and their accomplices premeditated the genocide of the Georgian population.

There is compelling evidence of a conspiracy between the organizers and executors of these heinous crimes and their accomplices, whose ultimate goals were the violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia and the mass murder of thousands of innocent people consigned to this horrible fate by simple virtue of their Georgian ethnic origin.

Despite compelling evidence to the contrary, certain parties persist in denying the occurrence of genocide in Abkhazia, and vainly attribute these events to the "usual cruelties of war". Such an assessment of this particular issue constitutes nothing more than an attempt to defraud the international community.

There is significant evidence that the preparation for an episode of ethnic cleansing in Abkhazia has been under way for many years. The Abkhaz mass media, scientific journals, etc., have consistently blamed Georgians for an alleged artificial reduction of the indigenous Abkhaz population. It became starkly obvious that the Georgian population was destined for elimination. And who would fill the tremendous vacuum created by the expulsion of a population numbering well over 200,000? The answer came during the conflict when Mr. B. Ardzinba and his co-conspirators loudly proclaimed the invitation to

people of North Caucasia and Near Eastern countries to come and fight against the Georgians, with the promise of "housing and citizenship" as a reward.

This insidious plot has resulted in the flight of literally hundreds of thousands of Georgians, forcibly driven from their homes and subjected to indescribable physical and mental punishment, overt violation of personal dignity, destruction of homes and property, stolen cattle and vehicles, etc. The treatment inflicted upon the Georgian population rendered it impossible for them to remain in Abkhazia without ultimately being annihilated.

The current investigation will present irrefutable evidence to all interested parties that premeditated ethnic cleansing took place in Abkhazia.

Almost immediately after the fall of Sukhumi on 27 September 1993, military engagement between the opposing forces ceased. The investigation has nevertheless ascertained the continuation of mass extermination of non-combatants after the closure of military operations, and possesses proof to this effect.

There is conclusive evidence of continuing cynical and beastly crimes against a peaceful population, which commonly include the rape of women and their further malicious wounding inflicted by carving the breasts of those who survive. It would be damning enough if the indictment were to stop here, but it must be known that this particular aforementioned brutality is inflicted not only on grown women, but on children who have not even reached adolescence. The gruesome trophies of these shameful deeds are the nipples of the victims collected in matchboxes by the perpetrators of these unspeakable crimes. Greek, Armenian, Russian and voices of other national origin rise in concert with Georgian in testimony to these events, and I accept full responsibility for this declaration of the facts.

In order to facilitate world awareness of the objectives of the Abkhaz fascists and the true picture of the tragedy that has resulted from their actions, it is necessary to draw the immediate attention of international organizations to these facts in the fullness of their atrocity.

According to the testimonies of numerous witnesses, after an innocent person is murdered, the following inscription is carved into the flesh of his body, "Do not eat so much, Georgians, do not get fat. It is not easy to drag your corpses".

It is impossible to read unemotionally the testimony of witnesses regarding the torture of Georgians who remained in Sukhumi after its fall to the Abkhaz separatists.

Hear the story of Nugzar Jimsheleishvili, the former engineer of the Council of Ministers. His father, Variam Jimsheleishvili, was taken captive. His house was destroyed, and both his grandmother, Babutsa Pipia, and his mother-in-law, Mzia Kalandla, were tortured and afterwards murdered.

Hear the story of a helpless 80-year-old man, L. B. (I use only initials out of reasonable considerations), who was brutally killed, and afterwards

buried by one of his students. The student, who was of Russian origin, met the same fate simply because he had given the old man a decent burial.

Hear of 60-year-old V. Monia, who was found hiding in his neighbour's house and murdered.

It is impossible to enumerate within the space of this document the tragic fates of M. Mirtskvlava, Mr. and Mrs. V. Kvaratskhelia, V. Argobliani, A. Gadelia, T. Gegechkori, U. Kvaratskhelia, D. Dgebuadze, S. Kakuberi and T. Kakuberi-Gvakharia, all Georgians, all neighbours on the same Tsereteli Street who unfortunately remained in Sukhumi after its fall, and now lay dead - who knows where?

And what about other Georgian residents of Sukhumi - D. Darchemelia, the brothers Zakradze, S. Kacharava, E. and Z. Abramia, F. Kalandia, T. Sharia, V. Kvachakhia, A. Kintsurashvili, D. Kopeliani, M. Kvirchkhaia?

Each unembodied name represents a human being who found himself at the mercy of a late twentieth century resurgence of fascism, and found it no more merciful than at any other time in history.

According to the evidence gathered by the investigation, official representatives of the Government of the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic were targeted for execution individually and in groups. It must be stressed that there are many documented incidents of this.

The account of the murder of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Abkhazia, Mr. Jiuly Shartava, and of his personal staff, is a case in point. According to the evidence gathered by the investigation, it has been established that Mr. Shartava and his staff were taken captive in Sukhumi and subjected to special brutality. A coroner's examination has proven that they were horribly tortured prior to their execution.

Shartava's murder and that of many other employees of the Cabinet of Ministers of Abkhazia was sanctioned by the same group, which provoked the military assault against the State of Georgia and its citizens.

Even during the process of the Geneva negotiations, the policy of genocide and ethnic cleansing has been relentlessly pursued. While the purpose of these negotiations is to achieve an acceptable peaceful settlement of the conflict, to the Abkhaz side they have been nothing more than a smokescreen behind which to hide the continuation of their barbaric policy. Instead of yielding to the peace process, they continue to cultivate a climate of horror so as to prevent the safe return of the displaced persons and refugees to their homes. This is proven by the most recent events in the Gali region of Abkhazia.

On 2 and 3 February 1994, Abkhaz forces used heavy artillery and tanks to mount an attack against villages in the Gali region. During the next 10 days, all of the buildings of Okumi, Mukhumi, Tsarche, Pirveli, Gali, Rechkhi, Tskhiri, Gumprish, Constitutsia, Kohora and other villages were burned to the ground. According to our information, a sophisticated artillery system, "Grad", was used, as well as poisonous gas in the village of Gumurishi. More than 800

houses were destroyed and hundreds of hostages have been taken. The killing and terrorization of the civilian population drove people from their villages to hide in the mountains. Thousands of women, children and elderly folk attempted to escape the terror by way of snow-covered passages, leaving behind mothers frozen with their babies in their arms, and old men and women unable to withstand the cruel conditions, both natural and man-made.

More than 2,000 devastated people managed to escape death and gain asylum in Zugdidi, Tsalenjikha, and other towns of western Georgia, many of whom are hospitalized with frozen hands and feet.

We are witnessing a classic policy of ethnic cleansing, which is a form of genocide.

It should be mentioned that the Gudautian separatists refused to permit the United Nations observers based in Sukhumi to visit the area where the repressive actions were taking place.

Are these effronteries not an overt challenge to United Nations peacemaking efforts - nay, to the entire civilized world?

During the course of this investigation the personalities of those people who, under the mantle of the Abkhaz separatists, commit genocide against a peaceful population are being clearly revealed. The evidence gathered testifies that the tragedy in Abkhazia is a crime against humanity.

(Signed) Prof. Levan ALEKSIDZE
Chairman of the Committee